

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

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INFO AMCONSUL CURACAO

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE BY POUCH

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS, TD, BB, JM, BF

SUBJECT: INS PROPOSAL TO AMEND REGULATIONS REGARDING VISA
REQUIREMENT FOR CERTAIN CARIBBEAN NATIONALS TRAVELING TO
PUERTO RICO AND THE USVI

1. THE IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE HAS PROPOSED
THAT 22 CFR 41.6(B) WHICH WAIVES THE VISA REQUIREMENT FOR
CERTAIN CARIBBEAN NATIONALS ENTERING PUERTO RICO AND THE
U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS BE AMENDED TO APPLY ONLY TO AGRICULTURAL
WORKERS.

2. PROPOSED AMENDMENT WOULD READ AS FOLLOWS: A VISA IS NOT
REQUIRED OF A BRITISH, FRENCH, OR NETHERLANDS NATIONAL, OR
A NATIONAL OF JAMAICA, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, BARBADOS, OR
THE BAHAMAS, WHO HAS HIS RESIDENCE IN BRITISH, FRENCH OR
NETHERLANDS TERRITORY LOCATED IN THE ADJACENT ISLANDS OF THE
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CARIBBEAN AREA, OR IN JAMAICA, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, BARBADOS,

OR THE BAHAMAS, FOR ADMISSION TO THE UNITED STATES AS AN AGRICULTURAL WORKER.

3. FOLLOWING REASONS ARE PROVIDED IN SUPPORT OF THIS PROPOSAL:

A. MOST OF THE BONA FIDE NONIMMIGRANTS HAVE ACCESS TO A NEARBY UNITED STATES CONSUL TO APPLY FOR A VISA.

B. MANY OF THE ALIENS WHO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE CURRENT VISA WAIVER PROCEDURES DO SO TO GAIN ACCESS TO PUERTO RICO OR THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS TO SEEK EMPLOYMENT OR TO ENTER THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES WITHOUT A VISA.

C. THERE IS INCREASING CONGRESSIONAL CONCERN OVER THE NUMBER OF ALIENS ILLEGALLY EMPLOYED IN U.S.

D. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE POST'S REACTION TO PROPOSED AMENDMENT. KISSINGER

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHÉD MARTINIQUE.

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